

JACOBITE SYRIAN CHRISTIAN
PRAYER BOOK

For
LAY MEN



Translated
by
PAULOSE ATHANASIUS
1951

FIFTH EDITION
1987

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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THE DAILY COMMON PRAYER FOR LAYMEN

(THE OLD VERSION)

Introduction

The daily prayers are seven and to be said at seven times a day. For the convenience of working laymen, these are devided into two sets, and so arranged that the one may be said in the early morning and the other at sun set. Accordingly three prayers are said in the evening and four in the morning. The day is reckoned from evening to evening, Hence we start with the even.

In the evening, those prayers of the Ninth hour of the Evening and Vespers

are said. The compline for the time of retirement is also said at the close of Vespers, for the sake of practical convenience.

In the morning, on rising from bed, after washing the eyes and face and rinsing the mouth, the prayers of the midnight, the morning, the third hour and the noon are said, at one stretch.

The prayers in the evening set as well as in the morning begin with “In the name of the Father and etc.” If one were to say the seven prayers at seven separate hours as appointed, each time one has to begin with “In the name of the Father and etc”, and end with the Creed. But with laymen this is not exact nor usual. When these prayers are said

in two sets at two times only, the separate sets begin and end as indicated above but each successive prayer in each set, after the beginning starts with only a Trisagion and Kauma, and end with the same. The Creed is said only at the close of each set.

All the seven prayers begin with a Kauma and end with the same, as indicated, and the "Hail Mary" is said at the end of the closing Kauma of each hour, in the set. The 'Hail Mary' is not a part of the Kauma as a rule, but only a petition usually said at the close of prayers.

There is the usual Kauma as well as the Kauma of Cherubic exaltation.

There is also the Kauma of the Angelic Adoration coming at the close of Mid-night prayer. The Mid-night prayers consist of, the first usual Kauma, two Kaumas of Cherubic exaltation and the fourth Kauma of Angelic adoration. The usual Trisagion and Kauma come at the beginning of the Morning set, the close of the Angelic Adoration, the beginning of the morning hour, the close of the morning hour, at the beginning of the Third hour at the close of the third hour at the beginning and end of, the Mid-day hour, the Ninth hour, and the Evening hour as well as the beginning of Vespers. The Cherubic Kauma comes at the second and the Kaumas of the Mid-night, and at the end of Vespers.

Prostrations at these prayers are made when one ends the Trisagion by saying "Thou who wast crucified for us" at the Cherubic Kauma while saying "Blessed is the Lord's honour and etc", as well as when one says in the Creed "Descended from heaven" (Thrice) till one says "Ascended to heaven." While in a group prayer, one who says the Creed in behalf of the rest does not prostrate during the same, while all the rest do so.

On certain days prostrations are not to be made. Sundays, Major Feasts of the church, the fifty days after Easter and the days on which one received Holy Communion are the days exempted from usual prostrations. On these days in the place of prostration, one only makes the sign of the cross and bows the head.

Prayer is said, as a rule, facing East standing and folding hands on the chest. In the case of one travelling in a locomotive, where this rule cannot possibly be kept, one may remain in one's own place and say the prayers. If such a one is travelling with strangers and people of different faiths one may say these canonical prayers silently to oneself making the sign of the Cross (without fail) No one is to miss one's prayers under the excuse of travelling. One may easily learn by heart these brief prayers and say them in time wherever one is if one cares to do so. This book begins with the prayer of the Ninth, hour which practically is said as the prelude of the Evening set of prayers.

THE EVENING SET OF PRAYERS THE PRAYER OF THE NINTH HOUR

In the name of the Father, the son
and the Holy Ghost + The One True
God. Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy, O Lord God
mighty, with whose praises the heav-
ens and Earth are full: Glory in the
highest. +

Blessed is He who came and cometh
the name of the Lord: Glory in the
highest. +

THE KAUMA

Te Trisagion

Holy art Thou O God.

Holy art Thou Mighty.

Holy art Thou Immortal.

O Thou who wast crucified (+) for us (here prostrate) have mercy upon us (Say this Trisagion thrice.)

Our Lord have mercy upon us. Our Lord have compassion and mercy upon us. Our Lord accept our worship and our prayers and have mercy upon us. Glory be to thee O God. Glory be to thee Creator. Glory be to thee O Christ-King who hast compassion on thy sinful servants: Bless my Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Rendered: verbatim from Syrian original)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come

 + Here makes the sign of the cross.

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day the bread of our need, and forgive us our debts and our sins as we also forgave our debtors, and admit us not into temptation and deliver us from the evil one; for thine is the kingdom, power and glory, for ever and ever. Amen. (Here ends the usual Kauma)

THE PETITION OF THE NINTH HOUR

O thou full of mercy, renew on the day of resurrection thy servants and worshippers thy creation, who died in thy hope. Pacify and absolve Lord our departed ones who died in thy hope and are looking forward to thy coming. My Lord, let those thy servants who died in thy hope dwell in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Let bodies and souls

together shout that He who came, comes and quickens the departed is blessed: Amen.

Trisagion, Kauma and Hail Mary Amen.

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary! full of grace. Our Lord with thee, thou art blessed among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Our Lord Jesus Christ. O圣 Mary, Holy Virgin, Mother of God, pray in our behalf, now and evermore, even at the hour of our death. Amen.

II. PRAYER OF THE EVENING HOUR

Trisagion and Kauma,

PETITION

O Lord Jesus Christ, close not the door of thy mercy on our faces. Lord

confess that we are sinners, have
rcy upon us. Thy love made thee
descend from thy place unto us, my
rd, that by thy death our death may
abolished. Have mercy upon us.
sagion and Kauma, ending, with Hail
ury.

(The prayer of the evening hour ends.)

III. VESPERS (SOOTHORO)
gin with Trisagion and the usual
Kauma

PSALM 91

He that dwelleth (sitteth) in the
ret place of the Most High, and abides
under the shadow of the Almighty,
unto the Lord my refuge, "God
you art my fortress in whom I trust."

For He shall deliver thee from snare of offence and from useless to
He shall cover thee with His feathers and under His wings shall thou be
laid. His truth shall be around thee like armament.

Fear thou not the terror of the night nor the arrow that flieth by the day

Nor the word that walketh in darkness nor the wind that bloweth at noon

Thousands shall fall at thy side a
ten thousands at thy righthand. they shall not come near thee.

But with thine eyes shalt thou hold and see the reward of the wicked

For thou Lord art my refuge who put thy habitation in the most high place

No evil shall touch thee, neither

hall any stroke come near thy dwelling;
or ' He shall give his angels order about
thee to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall hold thee up in their
hands, lest thy feet, stumble.

Thou shall tread upon the snake
and the adder; the lion and the serpent
halt thou trample under feet.

Because he seeketh me, will I deliver
him. I will strengthen him because he
 hath known my name.

He shall call upon me and I will an-
wer him. I will be with him in trouble;
will strengthen him and honour him.

With long life will I satisfy him and
how him my salvation.

PSALM 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountain, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to stir. He that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Because he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper. The Lord shall shade thee over by his right Hand.

The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in, henceforth for evermore.

Unto thee glory is due, O God
Bless my Lord.

PETITION

(The collect of Mar Severius)

O Thou who sittest in the shelter of Most High, do Thou shield us beneath the wings of Thy mercy. O Lord have mercy upon us, Thou who hearest do thou hear in thy pity, the application of thy servants. Give us O Christ, our Redeemer, a peacefull even-
-e and a night of righteousness. For thou art the glorious king. To thee
- eyes are lifted. Absolve our sins and
- ots, both in this world and that to
- ne. Thy mercies may shield us O
- d, and thy grace be on our count-
- nes. May thy Cross keep us from
- Evil One and his army. Thy right
- ed may cover us all the days of
- life and thy peace reign amongst

us. And give thou hope and salvation to all the souls who pray to thee, aid by the prayers of Mary thy Mother and of all thy saints. God forgive me my debts and have mercy on me.

KAUMA OF CHERUBIC PRAISE

Blessed is the honour of the Lord from His place for ever. (+)

Blessed is the honour of the Lord from his place for ever. (+)

Blessed is the honour of the Lord from His place evermore. (+)

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us.

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us.

Holy and glorious Trinity, have compassion and mercy upon us.

Holy and glorious art thou for ever.

Holy and glorious art thou for ever
 Holy and glorious art thou for
 evermore.

Glory be to thee our Lord,
 Glory be to thee our Lourd,
 Glory be so thee our Hope for ever
 less my Lord.
 our Father Who art in heaven.....
 men.

THE CREED

(Direct Translation from Syriac Orginal)
 We believe in one True God, Father
 mighty, the Maker of heaven and of
 earth and of all that are visible and
 visible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only begotten son of God, Who
 was born of the Father before all the
 worlds; Light, of Light, Very God, of

Very God, born, not made, consubstantial with the Father, by whom all was made, who for us men and for our salvation descended from heaven + and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and from the Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God and became Man, and was crucified + for us in the days of Pontius Pilate + and suffered and died and was buried and rose the third day and ascended to heaven and sat on the right hand of His father, and who cometh again in His Great Glory to judge the quick and the dead, and to whose Kingdom there is no end, And in one living and Holy Ghost who is the quickening Lord of all, who proceeds from the Father and is worshipped and adored with the Father and the Son, Who spoke through

the prophets and the apostles, And One Church; Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. We confess that there is only one Baptism for the remission of sins, and we await the resurrection of the dead and the new life in the world to come. Amen. Bless my Lord Stoumenos Kurielaison.

PETITION

O Thou True God, redeem us. Save us from all evils, from wickedness, from malice, from the thoughts of adultery, from all enemies, from treacherous companions, from the tempting of devils, from the evils of wicked men, from unclean passions, from unseemly lust, from frantic contemplations, from bad dreams, from hidden traps, from idle words,

great deceptions from hard revenge and from all worldly temptations.

Lord, save us from the rod of rage from sudden death, from hatred, from lightning and thunderbolt, from plagues from fiery hell, from unbearable wicked deeds, from undying worm, from unquenching fire, from the gnashing of teeth from lamentation, from terrible happenings, from evil hours, from tormenting hard-heartedness, from famine, from fears, from shocks from all unbearable punishments from the words "Depart ye, I know you not" and from all that separates us from thee. Amen.

(Hare ends Vespers)

(Comp'ine for the time of Retiring)

(In continuation of Vespers)

A PETITION

Merciful God, the voice of our prayer
 knocks at the door. Refuse not the
 petition of thy worshippers about their
 needs, O God we call upon thee for the
 help of our weakness O good One, hear
 the voice of our prayer and grant our
 requests in thy mercy.

HYMN

Bovoootho De Mar Ephraim

(In the tune Moran Ethraham a!ayin)

Our Lord have mercy on us,
 And accept Lord our service,
 Sending from thy treasury
 Kindness, mercy and pardon.

Grant me my Lord while I watch
 To stand before thee awake:
 If I fall asleep again
 Let my slumber be sinless.

In my wake if I offend,
By thy Grace I be atoned;
In my slumber if I sin,
Thy mercy be pardoner.

By thy Cross of thy meekness
Grant thou me slumber of rest,
And save me from evil dreams
As well from phantoms unclean.

In slumber full of calmness
Govern thou me all the night,
Lest the wicked ones and thought
Should have domain over me.

Give me the angel of Light
That guardeth all my limbs;
Save me from unholy lust,
By thy live Body I ate,

May I retire and sleep in calm
And thy Blood be my guardian-
Giving freedom to the soul
Which is but Thy own image.

On the flesh shaped by thy hands
Do thou shadow thy right hand;
The fortress of thy mercy
Surround me as a strong shield

When body retires and sleeps
May thy might be its guardian;
My sleep before thy greatness
May become as sweet incense!

Let the Evil not touch my bed,
By thy Mother's petition;
And thy sacrifice for me
Keep Satan from hurting me,

Keep thy word with me my Lord
And guard my life by thy Cross,
To praise thee when I wake up
For thou loved me in weakness.

Grant me by thy mercy Lord,
That I hear and do thy will;
Grant Lord an eve full of peace
And a night full of virtue

Our Saviour Jesus Christ,
We know thee as the True Light;
Thy honour stays in the Light;
And sons of Light worship thee.

Jesus Saviour of the world,
Who stays and lives in the Light;
To thee praise, on us mercy-
In this world and that to come.

Praise to thee Lord, praise to thee
Thousand thousnads we praise thee
Tens of thousands we praise thee
To thee praise, on us mercy.

Praise to Him, whom the Ereys
Worship and the angels serve,
Lord of Ereys and angels;
Accept worshipper's prayer.

Praise to the One who is Three
And to the Three who are One
Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Who is the True Only God.

O thou that heareth prayers
And answereth petitions
Hear our prayers and atone,
Granting requests in mercy.

A PETITION

Holy Father, keep us by thy holy name. Saviour Son, shield us by thy victorious Cross. Holy Spirit, make us the abodes for thy holy dwelling, O Lord our God, shield us under the wings of thy God-head at all times, always and for ever. Amen.

A PRAYER OF CONCLUSION

[To be said at the end of all prayers in general]

O Thou Father, Son and Holy Ghost, One True God, we believe and confess that thou art our God and pray unto thee. Accept our past, worship, service and petitions, and have mercy upon us.

Forgive us all the wrongs and sins we did against thee, willingly and

un-willingly, awares and unawares.
Help us to live all our lives with thou-
ghts, words and deeds which please
thee.

O God, save us from the temptatio-
ns of the wicked devils, from jealousy,
from the taunts of demons, from the
wickedness of men, from hard occurren-
ces, from the poverty that makes us lack
the food we need, from all ailments,
from all private and open enemies and
from all temptations. Forgive all the
shortcomings and sins of ours and of our
departed. Do thou not forsake us to
inherit the hell that is prepared for the
evil and rebellious. But make us all
worthy to enjoy in heaven, with the just
and the righteous who are thy friends.
O holy Virgin, St. Marry, the Mother of

God, in thee, O all ye saints in you and
O holy angels, in you we depend and
pray that ye may intercede to God in
our behalf, Let your prayers be a for-
trees unto us, Amen.

(Here ends the Evening set of prayers)

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THE MORNING SET OF PRAYERS

1. PRAYER OF THE MIDNIGHT

In the name of the father, the Son
and the Holy Ghost.....etc.

The usual Trisagion and Kauma
ending with The Lord's prayer.

PETITION

O Lord who sleepest not, awaken
me from the slumber of sin that I may
worship thee. O Living One who

I knowest not death, do thou raise me
from the slumber of death, to thank
thee for thy mercy and make me wor-
thy to praise thee in the glorious
company of all the saints. O Father,
Son and Holy Spirit, thine be glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

2nd KAUMA OF THE MIDNIGHT

(The Cherubic Kauma here)

Blessed is the honour of the Lord from
His place for ever +

Blessed is +

Blessed ever more +

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy
upon us.

Holy "

Holy and compassion upon us.

Holy and glorious art thou for ever.

Holy and

Holy.....for evermore.

Glory be to thee our Lord.

Glory be to thee our Lord,

Glory be to thee our Hope for ever..

Bless my Lord

Our Father who art in heaven.....Amen.

PETITION

Our Lord, have mercy upon us by the prayers of those who have pleased thee, the prophets who spake by the Spirit, the Apostles who preached thy revelation and the martyrs who died for thy love, shall pray unto thee; have mercy upon us. Pray O ye saints, with us to Him whose will ye have done, that he may remove and avert from us punishments and rods of rage. Our Lord, have mercy upon us by the prayer

f those who pleased thee. By their
rayer and petition absolve us and our
departed.

3rd KAUMA OF THE NIGHT

(The Cherubic Kauma)

lessed is the Honour of the Lord.. etc
(Say as in foregoing Kauma and
end with Our Father who art.....)

PETITION

O thou who art kind unto sinners,
be kind unto us on thy Judgement day.
In the abundance of thy grace forgive
us our debts. Those distressed knock at
thy door, O thou compassionate, answer
their requests by thy magnanimity. O
thou heavenly Father, we beseech thee.
Accept our service and have mercy
upon us.

4th KAUMA OF THE NIGHT

Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Glory
be to thee O God +

Halleluiah....., , , +
Halleluiah , , , +

Show thy mercy upon us, in thy
kindness, Lord, have mercy upon us and
help us.

Glory be to the Trinity +
Glory be to the Trinity +
we glorify thee Trinity glorious,
Eternal and Everlasting +
Glory is worthy unto thee at all times

THE ANGELIC HYMN

Just as the angels and the high Archangels in heaven are adoring, like them,
we the weak and earthly ones adore thee
while saying always and at all times.

Glory be to God in the high, peace

and tranquility on earth and good hope to men.

We adore thee, we sanctify thee, we worship thee and raise to thee the song of praise.

We praise thee for the greatness of thy glory, Lord. Creator, heavenly King and Almighty God.

Lord God, the Lamb of God, the Son and Word of the Father, who takes up, yea, took up the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

He who takes up, yea, has taken up the sin of the world, bow down thy ear and accept our petition; O thou who sitteth in glory on the right hand of his Father in Glory, spare us and have mercy upon us.

For thou alone art holy, thou alone

art Lord, Jesus Christ, sharing in the glory of the Father together with the Holy spirit Amen.

Always, and all the days of our lives we will sanctify thee and praise thy holy name which is blessed and eternal.

O Almighty God of our fathers, thou art blessed; thy name is glorious and thou art abounding in glories for ever.

Praise is becoming thee and glory is befitting thee. O thou God of all and Father of Truth, praise is due unto thee, unto the only begotten Son and unto the living Holy Ghost now and at all times, for ever. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, close not the door of thy mercy on our face, Lord, we confess that we are sinners, have mercy on us. Thy love made thee to

descend from thy place unto us, my lord, that by thy death our death may be abolished; have mercy upon us.

Trisagion and usual Kauma ending with Hail Mary.

(Here endeth the Prayers of the midnight)

I. PRAYER OF MORNING HOUR

Trisagion and usual Kauma ending with Our father who art in heaven.

PSALM 51

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy Grace and according to the multitude of thy mercy, blot out my sins.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sins.

For I know my follies and my sins

are against me always:

Against thee only have I sinned and evils have I done before thee. For thou shalt be justified in thy word and win in thy judgment.

Because I was conceived in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Thou wert pleased in truth and the secrets of thy wisdom thou made known to me.

Sprinkle on me with thy hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me with it and I shall be whiter than snow.

Fill me with thy joy and gladness and my humble bones shall rejoice.

Turn thou thy countenance away from my sins and blot out all my follies.

Create in me a clean heart; O God, and renew the right spirit in me.

Cast me not away from thy presence and take thou not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me thy joy and thy salvation and thy glorious Spirit shall uphold me.

For I will teach transgressors thy ways and sinners shall turn unto thee.

Deliver thou me from blood, my God, Thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall adore thy righteousness.

O Lord open thou my lips and my mouth shall sing forth thy praises.

For thou wert not pleased by sacrifice nor wert reconciled by burnt offerings.

The sacrifices of God are a; humble Spirit, and a broken heart God despiseth not.

In thy good pleasure do thou good unto Zion and build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness; and with burnt offerings of peace.

Then shalt they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

Glory is due unto thee O God.

Bless my Lord.

A PETITION

It is good to praise the Lord and to sing unto thy most high name and to proclaim in the morning thy grace, and thy faith every night O Lord, in the morning shalt thou hear my voice and in the morning shall I be ready and appear to thee. O Lord have mercy upon thy people. O Lord absolve and

Forgive the sins of all of us. O holy One stretch forth thy right hand towards us and heal our illness and for thy name's sake for ever. Amen.

Trisagion and Kauma ending with Hail Mary. Amen.

(Here endeth the prayer of the Morning Hour)

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III. PRAYER OF THE THIRD HOUR

(Begin with Trisagion & Kuma)

PETITION

O God, I praise thee for all the blessings thou hast given me. Though I am unworthy I pray thee to give me the fear and love of thee. Give thou me all that helpeth my life and is worthy unto thy Godliness. Rule me according to thy good will. May that be fulfilled in me always. Our Lord Jesus

Christ, I confess that I am the great sinner who sinned before thee more than all men. I crave thee pardon of my sins. God thou art who blesses, forgive me all that I have trespassed against thee. I am against all men from the time of my birth up to this time. Forgive thou all who have wronged me, for thou blessest and art the ocean of blessings. May our sins be regarded as a speck of mud in the ocean of thy blessings. A speck of mud cannot make a vast ocean turbid. Hence O God, have mercy upon me according to thy kindness. According to the abundance of thy mercy cleanse my sins. Wash me from my impurities and cleanse me from my sins, for I know my transgressions and my sins are set against me. Our Lord Jesus Christ,

redeem me from the severe pains of hell with unquenching fire and undying worm, prepared for me and for the unrighteous and the sinful like me. Though I am unworthy, make thou me worthy of the great bliss prepared in the other world for thy dear friends which the eye has not seen, the ear has not heard, nor has the heart conceived. As it is easy for thy blessings to forgive iniquities by the thousands and ten thousands, and as thou hast justified publicans and harlots in no time, forgive my sins by thy mercy. Hence I pray thee because of the love of thy Father and by the pleasure of thy Holy Ghost forgive my many sins and my bad shortcomings, by the intercession of the angels and of all thy saints.

Our Lord Jesus Christ who creates, praise and worship are worthy unto thee for thou blessest and art full of blessings and keepest us safe and unto Father who sent thee for our salvation and unto thy Holy Ghost, now and for ever. Amen.

Trisagion and Kauma ending with Hail Mary. Amen.

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IV. THE PRAYER OF THE NOON HOUR (SEXT)

Trisagion and initial Kauma

PETITION
(OF MAR SEVERIUS)

(This need not be said on those days on which one attends Holy Mass)

By the prayer of thy Mother who brought thee forth and of all thy saints, I will adore thee, my Lord and King, the only begotten Son, and the Word of the heavenly Father, who art in thy nature immortal, who by His Grace camest for the life and for the salvation of the whole human race and was incarnate from the Holy glorious pure Virgin Mother of God, Mary; became man without change and was crucified for us. Christ our God who by his death trampled and killed our death and is one of the Holy Trinity, and together worshipped and glorified with his Father and his living Holy Ghost; have mercy upon us all. (If this is said, follow up with the Trisagion and Kauma)

THE CREED

We believe in One true God...etc.
Amen. Bless my Lord; stoumenkalos
Kurielison, Kurielison. Kurielison

Lord have mercy upon us, Lord
have compassion and mercy upon us,
Lord answer us and have mercy upon
us. Glory be to thee our Lord, Glory
be to thee our Lord, Glory be to thee
our hope for ever. Bless my Lord.

Our Father who art in heaven...Amen.

A PETITION

O thou good Father, give me the
love and fear of thee, though I am not

worthy, God give me all that helpeth my life and pleaseth thy humanity. O my Lord, if thou willest thou can cleanse me O Lord, have mercy upon me a great sinner. My Lord, remember me when thou cometh in the great glory of thy Father with thy holy angels Lord help me, bless me and aid me in the lack of my faith. Our Lord, save us that we may not be lost. I sinned before thee and before heaven. I am not worthy to be called thy son. Accept me at least as a hired servant in thy house. Make me even as a salve, for I have sinned.

Amen.

(Here ends the Prayer of the NoonHour)
Here endeth the Morning set of Prayers.

*Here endeth the Book of
the Daily Common Prayers for Laymen*

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